

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

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R 071409Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9552

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

CINCLANT

DIA

COMUSFORAZ

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJ: NEW POLITICAL PARTIES AND GROUPS FORM IN METROPOLE

SUMMARY: THOUSANDS OF RETURNING POLITICAL EXILES AND
RECENTLY FREED POLITICAL PRISONERS NOW BACK IN PORTUGAL
HAVE JOINED WITH OTHER CITIZENS IN CONTRIBUTING THEIR
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ENERGY AND POLITICAL TALENT TO NUMBER OF NEWLY CREATED

OR REORGANIZED POLITICAL GROUPINGS. MAJORITY OF THESE GROUPS ARE LEFTIST, ALTHOUGH A FEW CENTER-RIGHT ONES HAVE EMERGED. CLIMATE OF POLITICAL TOLERANCE AND ENTHUSIASM PROMISES SPAWN EVEN MORE GROUPS, SOME EPHEMERAL, IN COMING WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING FIRST WEEK IN MAY SEVERAL NEW POLITICAL PARTIES CREATED IN METROPOLE. OTHER GROUPS, HERETOFORE OPERATING CLANDESTINELY, HAVE EMERGED FROM HIDING TO SUPPORT OR DIFFER WITH JUNTA. JUNTA REPRESENTATIVES HAVE RECEIVED DELEGATIONS OF MOST OF THESE PARTIES. IN ADDITION TO SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES, FOLLOWING GROUPS ESPOUSING VARIETY OF SOCIALIST IDEOLOGIES ARE AMONG THOSE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED:

A. PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO SOCIALISTA (PDS) (DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY: ORGANIZED MAY 3 IN IVELINES, FRANCE BY 2000 PORTUGUESE WHO ELECTED FOUR-MAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PREPARE GROUND FOR OFFICIAL LEGALIZATION PDS IN PORTUGAL. PARTY SAYS IT SEEKS TO FILL IDEOLOGICAL GAP BETWEEN SOCIALISTS (WHICH IT FINDS "DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO COMMUNIST EXTREME LEFT") AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. THIS GROUP CLAIMS TO ADHERE TO SOCIALIST IDEOLOGY BUT PUTS EMPHASIS ON DEMOCRACY AND FORESWEARS COMPROMISE WITH "COMMUNIST LEFT". PDS SUPPORTS JUNTA, PLANS TO RUN CANDIDATES IN ELECTIONS FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, AND HOPES TO COLLABORATE IN PREPARATION FUTURE POLICY, ESPECIALLY IN ECONOMIC AND EMIGRATION FIELDS.

B. PARTIDO POPULAR DEMOCRATICO (PPD) - (POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY): CENTER-LEFT PARTY CREATED MAY 4 BY GROUP PROMINENT SEDES TECHNOCRATS, INCLUDING FORMER LIBERAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES SA CARNEIRO, FRANCISCO BALSEMAO, AND MAGALHAES MOTA. OTHER ADHERENTS ARE MOTA AMARAL, ROGERIO MARTINS, JOAO SALGUEIRO AND CORREIA DA CUNHA. GROUPS PROGRAM AND STATUTES PRESENTED TO JUNTA BUT NOT YET PUBLISHED. GIVEN QUALITY ITS LEADERSHIP, PPD WILL PROBABLY PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND IN FUTURE POLITICAL LIFE OF NATION. MOTA AMARAL TOLD EMBOFF ON EVE PARTY'S CREATION THAT HE FEELS PPD COULD IN YEAR'S TIME WIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAJORITY IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTION IF JUNTA ENSURES BALANCED FREE PRESS UNTIL THEN.

C. PARTIDO CRISTAO SOCIAL-DEMOCRATA (PCSD) - (CHRISTIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY): ESTABLISHED MAY 4 THIS GROUP, WHOSE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NOW IN PROCESS ELABORATING ITS PROGRAM, CALLS FOR: MINIMUM NATIONAL AND FAMILY SALARY, WORKER PARTICIPATION IN MANAGEMENT, RIGHT TO STRIKE, FREE MEDICAL CARE AND EDUCATION,

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, SELF-DETERMINATION AND PEACE AS BASIS FOR SOLUTION OVERSEAS PROBLEM, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ALL NATIONS, INCLUDING COMMUNIST BLOC, FREE ENTERPRISE, AND DIRECT ELECTIONS OF ALL PUBLIC OFFICIALS.

D. MOVIMENTO DA ESQUERDA SOCIALISTA (MES) - (MOVEMENT OF SOCIALIST LEFT): NAME GIVEN TO NEW PARTY OF "NON-DOGMATIC" BUT LEFTIST SOCIALISTS WHICH TOOK PART IN RECENT MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS. MES GROUPS UNDER ITS BANNER A NUMBER OF FORMER 1969 CDE CANDIDATES, PROGRESSIVE CATHOLICS (INCLUDING NUNO TEOTONIO PEREIRA), AND SOME UNION AND STUDENT LEADERS. THIS PARTY'S PROGRAM NOT YET PUBLISHED. ITS SIZE AND POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE DIFFICULT EVALUATE AT THIS STAGE, BUT GIVEN STRENGTH OF OTHER PARTIES IT UNLIKELY BE SIGNIFICANT.

2. SEVERAL CENTER AND RIGHT-WING GROUPS HAVE ALSO BEEN ACTIVE IN LAST TEN DAYS.

A. MOVIMENTO FEDERLISTA PORTUGUES (MFP) - (PORTUGUESE FEDERLIST MOVEMENT): POSSIBLE FUTURE CENTER-RIGHT PARTY LED BY DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL, YOUNG CONSERVATIVE ECONOMIST AND FRIEND OF CAETANO. MFP PRESENTS ITSELF AS ORGANIZATION WHICH "DEFENDS PORTUGUESE NATION IN ITS PLURICONTENTAL WHOLE", AND SUPPORTS FEDERAL SOLUTION FOR OVERSEAS PROVINCES. ALSO CALLS FOR INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY, INDEPENDENCE OF PORTUGUESE ECONOMY FROM INTERNATIONAL GROUPS, STRUGGLE AGAINST MONOPOLIES, BETTER INCOME DISTRIBUTION, ETC. NUMBER FORMER CAETANO MINISTERS SUCH AS VEIGA SIMAO (EDUCATION) AND SILVA PINTO (CORPORATIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY) LINKED TO MFP. TIES WITH FORMER REGIME, HOWEVER, WILL BE SERIOUS DRAWBACK.

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B. PROGRAMA - ASSOCIACAO DE ESTUDOS PARA O PROGRESSO NACIONAL: FOUNDED AS CIVIC ASSOCIATION ONE YEAR AGO AFTER ANP CONGRESS IN TOMAR BY GROUP TECHNOCRATS DISAFFECTED WITH CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP OF ANP. PROGRAMA, WHICH NEVER GOT OFF GROUND UNDER OLD REGIME, HOPES CREATE NEW MOVEMENT OF CONSERVATIVE TECHNOCRATS, BUT GOALS AND PROGRAMS THIS MOVEMENT NOT YET PUBLISHED. SOME OF PROGRAMA'S MEMBERS
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HAVE APPARENTLY DEFECTED TO MFP. SMALL AND NOT SIGNIFICANT.

C. MONARCHISTS, DIVIDED INTO RIGHT AND LEFT WINGS, ARE ATTEMPTING TO ATTRACT NEW FOLLOWERS. TRADITIONAL MONARCHISTS ("A CAUSA MONARQUICA") WILL PROBABLY TRY TO FORM SMALL, RIGHTWING PARTY IN FUTURE. OPPOSING THEM IS "CONVERGENCIA MONARQUICA", AMALGAMATION OF THREE MORE LIBERAL MONARCHIST MOVEMENTS, WHICH HAS RECENTLY REORGANIZED WITH HOPES CREATING POLITICAL PARTY TO FIGHT IMPERIALISM, CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION, MONOPOLIES AND CORRUPTION. ONLY APPARENT COMMON THEME AMONG MONARCHISTS IS CALL FOR KING WHO WOULD BE INDEPENDENT, NON-POLITICAL DEFENDER OF CONSTITUTION. MONARCHISTS UNLIKELY BE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FORCE IN FUTURE.

3. ON THE FAR LEFT, FOLLOWING GROUPS EXIST:

A. PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DO PROLETARIADO (PRP) -

(REVOLUTIONARY PROLETARIAT PARTY); COMMUNIST SPLINTER GROUP CREATED IN 1973 AS RESULT SCHISM IN RANKS FPLN (FRENTE PATRIOTICO DE LIBERTACAO NACIONAL). PRP ENCOMPASSES REVOLUTIONARY BRIGADES WHICH CARRIED OUT NUMBER SABOTAGE OPERATIONS IN METROPOLE. PRP HAS NOT GIVEN ITS SUPPORT TO JUNTA OR MOVEMENT ARMED FORCES, NOR HAS IT REVEALED WHAT IT HAS PLANNED FOR FUTURE.

B. MOVIMENTO REORGANIZADO DO PARTIDO DO PROLETARIADO (MRPP) - (REORGANIZED MOVEMENT OF PROLETARIAT PARTY): FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1970 AS MAOIST DIRECT ACTION GROUP. MAIN TARGETS LABOR UNIONS, STUDENTS, SOLDIERS, WHO ENCOURAGED TO DESERT. MRPP, WHOSE SIZE UNKNOWN BUT PROBABLY NO MORE THAN A FEW THOUSAND, OPPOSES JUNTA PROGRAM AND IS WIDELY CONDEMNED BY SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS FOR ITS PROVOCATIONS OF JUNTA.

C. LIGA DE UNIAO E ACCAO REVOLUCIONARIA (LUAR) - (LEAGUE OF UNION AND REVOLUTIONARY ACTION): CREATED BY PALMA INACIO IN 1967, ORGANIZATION HAS CARRIED OUT BANK ROBBERIES, ASSAULTS ON POLICE STATIONS, ETC. LUAR HAS TAKEN NO COLLECTIVE POSITION SO FAR RE JUNTA PROGRAM.

D. FRENTE PATRIOTICA DE LIBERTACAO NACIONAL (FPLN) - (NATIONAL PATRIOTIC LIBERATION FRONT): LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORGANIZED IN 1962 IN ALGIERS BY FORMER COMMUNIST PITEIRA SANTOS AND POET MANUEL ALEGRE. SPLIT WITH COMMUNIST PARTY IN 1971, AND IN SEPTEMBER 1973 IT LOST REVOLUTIONARY BRIGADES TO BREAKAWAY PRP. THESE TWO LEADERS, ON RETURN FROM EXILE MAY 2, ANNOUNCED SUPPORT OF JUNTA AND ARMED FORCES, WARNED AGAINST "POLITICAL IRRESPONSIBILITY" BY EXTREMISTS, AND ASSERTED CONDITIONS NOW EXISTS FOR PEACEFUL TRANSFORMATION PORTUGAL TO SOCIALISM. FPLN PLANS ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH OTHER MILITANTS WITH SIMILAR VIEWS IN NEAR FUTURE.

E. FRENTE LIBERTARIA PORTUGUESA (FLP) - (PORTUGUESE FRONT FOR LIBERTY): ANARCHIST GROUP OPERATING CLANDESTINELY IN PORTUGAL SINCE 1972. FLP MEMBERS AND FORMER PARTICIPANTS CGT (GENERAL LABOR CONFEDERATION) SENT CABLE TO JUNTA MAY 5 EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH MOVEMENT ARMED FORCES. GROUP, HOWEVER, PROMISED CONTINUE STRUGGLE TO LIBERATE PEOPLE FROM "YOKE IMPERIALISM".

4. COMMENT: THIS INITIAL ARRAY OF PARTIES AND GROUPS LIKELY CHANGE CONSIDERABLY IN MONTHS AHEAD AS JOCKEYING FOR POSITIONS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS LEADS NEW GROUPS TO FORM, OTHERS TO DISAPPEAR, AND SOME TO MERGE. AT THIS EARLY DATE LITTLE HARD INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON MOST THESE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH STILL IN PROCESS OF INTERNAL CONSOLIDATION AND PROGRAM FORMULATION. ONE MAJOR QUESTION

IS WHETHER JUNTA WILL ALLOW LARGE NUMBER POLITICAL
GROUPS TO RUN IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS, OR WILL INSIST
THAT ONLY PARTIES REPRESENTATIVE OF SIGNIFICANT
CURRENTS OF OPINION BE ALLOWED PARTICIPATE IN
PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS. ANOTHER QUESTION
IS WHETHER THE CENTER-LEFT PARTIES, WHICH HAVE NO
INFRASTRUCTURE AND WHICH HAVE BEEN SLOW TO ORGANIZE,
CAN COMPETE AGAINST THE EXPERIENCED AND WELL ORGANIZED
LEFT.
SCOTT

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